C2175-1

CH MNAHWSSZDJC49SAMPLE P XE
JOE MCNALLY
CONGRESSIONAL INFO SERV
425 E WEST HWY
WASHINGTON DC 20014

THE CHRONICLE
of Higher Education.

ISSN 0009-5982

March 10, 1982 • $1.25
Volume XXIV, Number 2

News Summary

Articles on inside pages

Gallaudet College, the only four-year liberal-arts college for the deaf, has many achievements to its credit besides the invention of the football huddle. Story on Page 4.

California will require faculty members at the state's university to disclose financial ties to private companies that award them research grants. Story on Page 6.

Budget deficits have forced the American Council on Education to cut back its publications program. Story on Page 8.

A federal appeals court has refused to halt women's sports championships sponsored by the National Collegiate Athletic Association. Story on Page 9.

Restrictions imposed by the State Department on visiting foreign scientists will again be forwarded to universities by the National Academy of Sciences. Story on Page 11.

The authority to enforce federal civil-rights laws would be consolidated in the Department of Justice under a bill introduced in the House of Representatives. Story on Page 11.

William J. Bennett, chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, says recent reductions in the endowment's budget may provide an opportunity to raise its standards. Story on Page 13.

Higher-education leaders from 20 countries and territories have agreed to set up an Inter-American council to foster cooperative projects designed to deal with social and economic problems. Story on Page 19.

"Managed" textbooks, despite their waning popularity, have occasioned many changes in the publishing of college texts. Story on Page 21.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

Books	21-24
Bulletin Board	34-63
Calendar of Events	30-33
Canadian News	20
Deadlines	33
Deaths	28
Fact-File	10
Gazette	28
Grants	29-30
International News	19-20
Letters	25-26
Marginalia	2
News in Brief	2-3
Notes on the Arts	3
Opinion	25
Point of View	64
Washington News	11-18

House Republicans Join Democrats in Denouncing Cuts in Student Aid

But new estimates of soaring costs may jeopardize support for guaranteed-loan program

By JANET HOOK

WASHINGTON

House Republicans, breaking ranks with the Reagan Administration, have joined Democrats in criticizing the deep cuts in student loans and other education programs proposed by the President.

However, student-aid advocates feared that Congress might seek other ways to curtail Guaranteed Student Loans because of new estimates of the rapidly growing cost of the program.

The Congressional Budget Office said that even if Congress approved the drastic new restrictions on student loans proposed by President Reagan, the guaranteed-loan program next year would cost about $1-billion more than the Administration has predicted.

Nonetheless, Republican members of the House Education and Labor Committee joined the chorus of complaints last week about the President's austere education budget when Education Secretary Terrel H. Bell appeared before the panel.

"I supported the Administration last year, but this year all the cuts have already been made," said E. Thomas Coleman of Missouri, the ranking Republican on the House Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education.

Said Marge Roukema, Republican of New Jersey, "It's quite doubtful that any changes can be made above and beyond what was done last year in the student-loan program."

Even Rep. John M. Ashbrook, a conservative Republican from Ohio and ranking minority member of the education committee, said he thought the President's budget proposals went too far—particularly in vocational-education programs.

Despite the bipartisan opposition to further cutbacks in aid, Rep. Paul Simon, Democrat of Illinois and chairman of the House Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education, warned student-aid advocates

Continued on Page 15, Column 1

CHRONICLE PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN C. PHILLIPS

Students rally on the steps of the U.S. Capitol to protest new reductions in federal student assistance proposed by the Reagan Administration.

Students Lobby to Overturn Reagan Budget

WASHINGTON

They rallied on Capitol Hill chanting, "Books, not bombs." They hawked T-shirts carrying the slogan, "Stop the blade: fight for aid." And they told Congress that they could not withstand further reductions in federal assistance to students.

It was all part of a massive lobbying effort last week, when thousands of college students came here to protest the cutbacks in federal grants and loans proposed by President Reagan.

Sponsored by nine student groups—including the United States Student Association and the Coalition of Independent College and University Students—"National Student Lobby Day" was billed as the beginning of a nationwide campus effort to block Congressional approval of further cuts in student aid.

Although the day culminated in the standard form of opposition politics—a large rally on the steps of the Capitol—students came prepared primarily to work within the system.

Many of the men wore suits and ties and many of the women, skirts; all were armed with facts and figures detailing the potential effects of the proposed student-aid cutbacks on their institutions and on their own education plans. They paid visits to Senators, Representatives, and legislative aides to urge opposition to the Reagan budget.

•

Nancy Lakowski, a senior at Loyola University of Chicago, was already rethinking her career planning in light of the proposed student-aid cutbacks.

She had planned to study for a master's degree in business next year and had expected to finance her graduate education with Guaranteed Student Loans. Since President Reagan proposed that graduate

Continued on Page 14, Column 3

Discovery of Fossil Fly May Aid Genetic Study

BERKELEY, CAL.

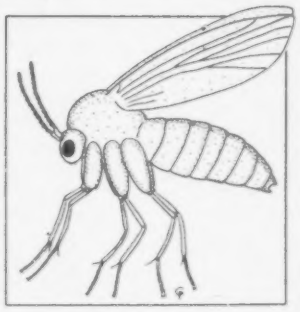
University of California researchers have discovered the 40-million-year-old remains of a fly that may offer a long-shot chance to study the evolution of the genetic code.

The fly is embedded in amber—fossilized tree sap—and is believed to be the oldest example of preserved soft tissue—once-living tissue that is not bone or horn.

The researchers—George O. Poinar, Jr., a lecturer in invertebrate pathology at Berkeley, and Roberta T. Hess, a researcher proficient in the use of electron microscopes there—published their findings in the March 5 issue of *Science*.

Mr. Poinar said in a subsequent interview that one of the most interesting discoveries was the dark patches in the nuclei of the fly cells that he and Ms. Hess observed, "which appear to be chromatin."

Chromatin forms the substance of chromosomes, which contain deoxyribonucleic acid—DNA—the material that carries the genetic code of life.



A fly (above) that lived 40 million years ago may contain the oldest known remains of soft-tissue cells (dark patches in micrograph).

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY

'A Long Shot'

"It's a long shot," Mr. Poinar said, "but if the [genetic] material was protected from radiation by the earth or amber, there would be a slight chance that some of the material is still viable."

If DNA exists in the fly cells and the scientists can reproduce it, he added, it will show that genetic material can be preserved for periods much longer than was believed possible.

Some scientists think DNA cannot be preserved for more than a few thousand years.

Among other things, the ancient genetic material could reveal the genetic changes that occurred during evolution to produce the present-day species.

Mr. Poinar said he had sent portions of the fly tissue to Allan C. Wilson, professor of biochemistry at Berkeley, who is developing techniques that may enable scientists to reproduce ancient DNA.

He said Mr. Wilson had found the fly cells to be in better condition than those of a mammoth that were sent to Berkeley from the Soviet Union four years ago. The mammoth's cells, which are 40,000 years old, had been preserved in ice.

Until now, Mr. Poinar added, human mummies and million-year-old mammoths were the oldest known examples of preserved soft tissue.

Although the fly cells appear to be in good condition, Mr. Wilson said, the amount of DNA that can be extracted from them is only about a thousandth of the amount that can be extracted from a mammoth's cells.

"With the fly's, I expect a larger problem in studying the DNA," Mr. Wilson said.

120 Million Years Old

Other insect remains, 120 million years old, have been preserved in amber. But scientists believe that only the hard outer skeletons have been preserved, and that the soft insides have deteriorated.

Mr. Poinar said he believed the fly cells initially observed under the microscope by Ms. Hess had been preserved so well in the amber because the sap had contained sugar, which dehydrated the cells, as well as a natural fixative.

The cell structures, including muscle fibers, nuclei, and fat droplets, were so well preserved that some of them absorbed a stain used to color fresh cells, the researchers say. "In essence, what we are describing is an extreme case of mummification, involving the preservation of insect tissue by drying and natural embalming," they say in their article in *Science*.

Mr. Poinar said he had not identified the fly specifically, but he knows that it belongs to the family *Mycetophilidae*, commonly called fungus gnats, which are typically found around decaying wood and rotting plants.

The sap that entombed the fly was produced by trees that grew 40 million years ago in the region of the Baltic Sea. Such Baltic amber is prized by collectors, who pay $200 or more for pieces to use in jewelry. —KIM McDONALD

would receive tenure by academic 1982-83.

Mark Harris, a novelist and director of creative writing at Arizona State, filed suit last summer after the university gave him a one-year terminal contract. He argued that the institution could not let him go because he had tenure as the result of a written promise from a dean.

In a preliminary injunction, the court said the university could not let Mr. Harris go without the due process accorded tenured faculty members. The university has decided not to appeal.

▪ Public-Interest Law School at Queens Gets First Dean

Charles Halpern, a professor at the Georgetown University law school and director of the university's Institute for Public Representation from 1978 to 1981, has been named the first dean of a new public-interest law school, the City University of New York Law School at Queens College.

The new institution, which is scheduled to open in September, 1983, will train lawyers for work in such fields as regulatory reform, corporate responsibility, civil rights, immigration, public policy, health policy, consumer issues, and environmental protection, Mr. Halpern said.

▪ Energy-Management System Planned to Cut Campus Costs

A program to help campuses reduce energy consumption is being developed by higher education's Energy Task Force, a group sponsored by the American Council on Education, the National Association of College and University Business Officers, and the Association of Physical Plant Administrators of Universities and Colleges.

The project is supported by a $300,000 grant from the John A. Hartford Foundation of New York.

Chistopher E. Crittenden, director of the task force, said the Educational Facilities Laboratories of New York would be involved in the development of energy-management systems, and from 10 to 12 colleges and universities would be selected for testing the new systems.

▪ College Offers Loans to Replace U.S. Aid

Dickinson College has established a loan fund for parents of students who no longer qualify for federally guaranteed student loans because income ceilings have been lowered.

Ten-year loans, for amounts up to $2,500 per year or $10,000 in four years, will be available, starting with the 1982-83 academic year, said Donald V. Raley, director of financial aid.

The interest is expected to be about 3 percentage points below bank rates, he said.

▪ Notes

City College of the City University of New York has established the Institute for the Study of Modern Jewish Life, using a $125,000 bequest to expand the work of its Jewish-studies department. . . . Ideas for recruiting and retaining young faculty members are being sought by the Academy for Educational Development. That will be the theme of the A.E.D.'s 1982 handbook of ideas, with cash awards for the best submissions.

Donations to Universities' Athletic Programs

Due to a production error, the table below was illegible in some copies of last week's *Chronicle*. The table shows donations to athletic programs at selected colleges in 1980-81, or in the latest year for which the institutions had records. The information was compiled by the Omaha *World-Herald*.

Pacific-10		**Big Ten**		**Atlantic Coast**		**Southeastern**	
Stanford	$4,000,000	Iowa	$1,900,000	Clemson	$3,140,000	Georgia	$2,700,000
Washington	$2,000,000	Illinois	$1,350,000	North Carolina	$3,000,000	Florida	$1,750,000
UC Berkeley	$2,000,000	Indiana	$1,350,000	N C State	$1,900,000	Vanderbilt	$1,500,000
Southern Cal	$1,600,000	Ohio State	$1,250,000	Virginia	$1,600,000	Alabama	$1,200,000
Arizona State	$1,200,000	Purdue	$1,000,000	Wake Forest	$1,500,000	LSU	$1,100,000
Oregon State	$955,000	Michigan State	$965,000	Maryland	$1,300,000	Kentucky	$850,000
Arizona	$800,000	Minnesota	$550,000	Duke	$1,000,000	Mississippi	$700,000
UCLA	$600,000	Michigan	$400,000	Georgia Tech	$945,000	Mississippi State	$600,000
Oregon	$765,000	Northwestern	$300,000			Tennessee	not available
Washington State	$602,000	Wisconsin	not available	**Southwest**		Auburn	not available
Independents		**Big Eight**		SMU	$1,900,000	**Others**	
South Carolina	$2,300,000	Oklahoma	$3,500,000	Texas A&M	$1,800,000	Wichita State	$1,000,000
Florida State	$2,100,000	Oklahoma State	$1,500,000	Houston	$1,600,000	Tulsa	$625,000
Penn State	$1,470,000	Kansas State	$1,500,000	Arkansas	$1,500,000	Texas-El Paso	$500,000
West Virginia	$1,140,000	Missouri	$1,500,000	Texas Tech	$1,200,000	Brigham Young	$500,000
Pittsburgh	$657,000	Kansas	$1,240,000	Rice	$575,000	Wyoming	$450,000
Tulane	$525,000	Iowa State	$900,000	Baylor	$450,000	Creighton	$81,000
Notre Dame	not available	Colorado	$862,000	TCU	$450,000	UN-Omaha	$70,000
		Nebraska	$462,000	Texas	not available		

Notes on . . .

The Arts

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington has won preliminary approval for the construction of an underground conservatory to train graduate students in music and theater.

To be known as the Institute of the John F. Kennedy Center, the five-story building will contain a 600-seat recital hall, a 250-seat theater, 10 classrooms, 12 studios, and 38 practice rooms. It will be dug into the ground close to the Kennedy Center's existing building, from which it will be visible only as a terraced garden with sunken light wells at its center.

Kennedy Center officials said last week that plans for the institute were far from complete, and that it was too early to say how many students it would enroll or even when it might open. Although the federal government's Commission of Fine Arts has approved the project, the Kennedy Center must still seek the blessing of both Congress and the National Capital Planning Commission—and raise about $25-million from private sources—before the digging begins.

▪

Patricia Washington McGraw, an assistant professor of English at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, wrote a one-woman play for the Bicentennial celebration in 1976, and has been asked to perform it more than 300 times since.

Although it requires only one actor, it presents the stories of four black women who earned places in American history—Harriet Tubman, who led slaves to freedom on the "underground railroad"; Sojourner Truth, an abolitionist who sought equal educational opportunities for blacks; Phyllis Wheatley, a poet who in 1770 became the first American black woman to have her work published; and Rosa Parks, who set off a bus boycott in Montgomery, Ala., in 1955 by refusing to sit at the back of a bus.

In her play, Ms. McGraw relates how Sojourner Truth (below) answered a question about the slavery provisions in the Constitution:

"This morning the Lord and I went a'walkin' and we passed by this wheat field. I reached out and felt some of the wheat and there was no hop in it. I said, 'Lord, what's wrong with this wheat?' He said, 'Sojourner, it's got a little weevil in it.'

"So I feels around in this Constitution and I can't find Sojourner's rights, and I said, 'Lord, what's wrong with this Constitution?' And the Lord said, 'Sojourner, it's got a little weevil in it.' "

The play is called "A Profile of Four Black Women: Look Upon Them and Be Renewed."

—LAWRENCE BIEMILLER

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK

FACT–FILE

Median Administrative Salaries in 1981-82 for Men and Women and Minority-Group Members

	Nonminority	Minority	Nonminority differential	Male	Female	Male differential
Chief executive of a single institution	$51,812	$50,000	+ 3.6%	$52,020	$44,000	+18.2%
Executive vice-president	43,500	41,731	+ 4.2%	44,000	35,000	+25.7%
Chief academic officer	41,295	40,792	+ 1.2%	42,000	37,000	+13.5%
Chief budgeting officer	33,500	28,194	+18.8%	34,106	28,194	+21.0%
Chief business officer	39,345	33,004	+19.2%	39,550	29,682	+33.2%
Chief development and public-relations officer	37,500	28,400	+32.0%	39,000	31,000	+25.8%
Chief development officer	35,310	32,922	+ 7.3%	36,130	28,641	+26.1%
Chief health-professions officer	—	—	—	64,114	30,229	+112.1%
Chief planning-and-budget officer	42,425	32,500	+30.5%	41,810	36,796	+13.6%
Chief planning officer	37,350	27,800	+34.4%	37,407	32,000	+16.9%
Chief public-relations officer	26,900	24,156	+11.4%	30,785	21,500	+43.2%
Chief student-affairs officer	34,100	36,060	– 5.4%	35,203	29,007	+21.4%
Administrator, grants and contracts	30,874	24,500	+26.0%	33,295	22,890	+45.5%
Administrator, hospital medical center						
Bursar	22,300	18,864	+18.2%	25,100	18,000	+39.4%
Comptroller	30,000	24,600	+22.0%	31,074	22,020	+41.1%
Registrar	25,500	24,596	+ 3.7%	28,600	19,647	+45.6%
Director, admissions	27,500	25,764	+ 6.7%	28,800	22,500	+28.0%
Director, admissions and financial aid	30,000	25,000	+20.0%	31,253	20,140	+55.2%
Director, affirmative action, equal employment	27,264	30,000	– 9.1%	30,729	27,315	+12.5%
Director, alumni affairs	22,000	20,000	+10.0%	25,000	18,310	+36.5%
Director, athletics	30,996	30,127	+ 2.9%	31,312	18,733	+67.1%
Director, athletics, women	25,650	19,692	+30.3%	22,163	25,650	–13.6%
Director, auxiliary services	29,900	30,560	– 2.2%	30,600	18,000	+70.0%
Director, bookstore	18,360	16,560	+10.9%	22,600	14,400	+56.9%
Director, campus recreation	22,333	16,000	+39.6%	22,746	18,500	+23.0%
Director, campus security	21,659	24,000	– 9.8%	21,840	20,473	+ 6.7%
Director, church relations	—	—	—	21,000	15,400	+36.4%
Director, community services	27,882	30,880	– 9.7%	30,800	23,500	+31.1%
Director, computer services	30,000	26,634	+12.6%	30,504	22,647	+34.7%
Director, development and alumni affairs	—	—	—	33,580	20,800	+61.4%
Director, educational-media services	23,652	23,469	+ 0.8%	24,660	18,403	+34.0%
Director, employee training	25,236	24,000	+ 5.1%	26,800	22,752	+17.8%
Director, food services	24,484	22,000	+11.3%	25,732	19,980	+28.8%
Director, foreign students	24,074	22,650	+ 6.3%	25,272	19,926	+26.8%
Director, information office	23,320	20,680	+12.8%	26,469	20,500	+29.1%
Director, information systems	35,000	25,000	+40.0%	35,900	24,000	+49.6%
Director, institutional research	29,890	26,640	+12.2%	32,000	23,201	+37.9%
Director, internal audit	29,000	25,260	+14.8%	29,364	22,847	+28.5%
Director, international-studies education	31,000	30,504	+ 1.6%	34,356	22,909	+50.0%
Director, learning-resources center	28,837	26,126	+10.4%	30,677	23,079	+32.9%
Director, legal services	41,268	40,112	+ 2.9%	42,096	35,000	+20.3%
Director, library services	28,990	26,000	+11.5%	31,493	23,940	+31.5%
Director, news bureau	—	—	—	24,100	18,460	+30.6%
Director, personnel and affirmative action	25,000	25,146	– 0.6%	28,297	20,760	+36.3%
Director, personnel and human resources	29,796	28,000	+ 6.4%	32,922	23,100	+42.5%
Director, physical plant	28,250	23,556	+19.9%	28,000	18,000	+55.6%
Director, publications	23,122	21,000	+10.1%	26,380	20,232	+30.4%
Director, purchasing	24,189	21,809	+10.9%	25,650	17,795	+44.1%
Director, risk management and insurance	—	—	—	28,548	26,800	+ 6.5%
Director, special and deferred gifts	—	—	—	28,000	22,400	+25.0%
Director, student counseling	27,080	26,000	+ 4.2%	28,140	23,310	+20.7%
Director, student financial aid	23,100	24,864	– 7.1%	25,296	18,638	+35.7%
Director, student health services						
Physician	47,465	31,390	+51.2%	47,680	40,000	+19.2%
Nurse	17,512	16,800	+ 4.2%	19,020	17,417	+ 9.2%
Director, student housing	21,000	18,696	+12.3%	22,600	17,000	+32.9%
Director, student placement	22,667	22,700	– 0.1%	25,000	19,425	+28.7%
Director, student union	24,000	24,141	– 0.6%	25,584	18,400	+39.0%
Dean, agriculture	48,072	39,200	+22.6%	—	—	—
Dean, arts and letters	—	—	—	39,500	37,500	+ 5.3%
Dean, arts and sciences	43,170	36,000	+19.9%	43,209	35,580	+21.4%
Dean, business	40,635	32,280	+25.9%	41,258	31,298	+31.8%
Dean, communications	—	—	—	35,833	29,333	+22.2%
Dean, continuing education	33,900	32,200	+ 5.3%	35,412	27,768	+27.5%
Dean, education	42,792	39,000	+ 9.7%	43,800	35,277	+24.2%
Dean, engineering	48,700	39,250	+24.1%	—	—	—
Dean, experimental programs	—	—	—	37,130	30,500	+21.7%
Dean, extension	36,134	37,000	– 2.3%	38,280	25,251	+51.6%
Dean, fine arts	38,848	39,882	– 2.6%	39,882	30,667	+30.0%
Dean, graduate programs	43,000	40,333	+ 6.6%	43,992	37,500	+17.3%
Dean, health-related professions	36,800	37,271	– 1.3%	41,400	33,744	+22.7%
Dean, home economics	—	—	—	49,500	38,511	+28.5%
Dean, humanities	33,082	33,868	– 2.3%	35,000	31,400	+11.5%
Dean, instruction	—	—	—	39,500	41,976	– 5.9%
Dean, library and information sciences	—	—	—	42,144	32,040	+31.5%
Dean, mathematics	31,490	31,500	0.0%	31,500	28,151	+11.9%
Dean, music	36,800	33,888	+ 8.6%	36,570	19,283	+89.6%
Dean, nursing	36,634	36,000	+ 1.8%	36,000	36,700	– 1.9%
Dean, sciences	36,100	35,886	+ 0.6%	36,379	32,264	+12.8%
Dean, social sciences	33,000	33,384	– 1.2%	33,470	30,600	+ 9.4%
Dean, social work	43,600	48,000	– 9.2%	43,600	46,622	– 6.5%
Dean, special programs	29,390	31,600	– 7.0%	29,074	29,390	– 1.1%
Dean, undergraduate programs	—	—	—	39,800	35,392	+12.5%
Dean, vocational education	35,330	35,258	+ 0.2%	35,630	31,759	+12.2%

— No data

SOURCE: COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

Don't Let Guard Down in Hard Times: Lyman

WASHINGTON

Colleges and universities may become so concerned with their economic survival that they will surrender their institutional freedoms, Richard W. Lyman, president of the Rockefeller Foundation, warned last week.

In a speech prepared for the annual meeting of the American Association for Higher Education here, Mr. Lyman said that institutional "concern for survival is certainly understandable" at a time "when a wolf 10 feet tall is salivating at the door."

However, he added, "when we are threatened is precisely the time to make sure that we don't lose sight of the essentials, such as the essential need to protect institutional freedoms."

He compared the current concern about financial problems with the concern about campus disruptions in the late 1960's and early 70's.

"It seems to me that many institutions suffered, back in the days of campus turmoil, from such a preoccupation with restoring peace to the campus that essential elements of a healthy academic life were sometimes bargained away," Mr. Lyman said. "We could do the same thing in response to financial peril, and it would be a tragic mistake."

He said institutions needed "to fight, every way we know how, against the powerful tendency, rooted in public pressures and our financial need, to become whatever it seems may be profitable in short-run material terms."

CHRONICLE PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN C. PHILLIPS

Richard W. Lyman

'Uneasy' over Report on Testing

Mr. Lyman, former president of Stanford University, also sharply criticized some of the recommendations in a recent report from the Commission on the Higher Education of Minorities, financed by the Ford Foundation (*The Chronicle*, February 3).

Specifically, Mr. Lyman took issue with the commission's recommendations that would have admissions officers place less emphasis on standardized tests and other traditional measures of academic performance when considering applicants from minority groups.

"When I encounter arguments for finding ways to play down academic requirements in favor of nonacademic ones, I am made uneasy," he said.

"To view the problem of minority education as rooted in a conspiracy located in Princeton in the vicinity of the Educational Testing Service is to trivialize the problem, and in a way that prevents serious discussion of it and cheats the very minority youth whose futures are at stake."

He added, "The enemy of full access to higher education is not testing, it is grossly and persistently inadequate education at the lower levels, together with the poverty and degradation of life in too many population centers."

"There are no easy solutions," Mr. Lyman added, "and urging admissions officers to be more ingenious about how to compensate for shortcomings isn't a solution at all."

—MALCOLM G. SCULLY

Mail-Order-Diploma Operation Shut Down by Postal Service

OKLAHOMA CITY

The U.S. Postal Service has closed two post-office boxes used in a mail-order-diploma scheme so sophisticated that its fictitious colleges were backed by fake accrediting agencies. But inspectors have not yet tracked down the scheme's operators.

"We have every reason to believe that it has elements of organized crime," said Dan Hobbs, vice-chancellor for planning and policy research at the Oklahoma Regents for Higher Education. He said the mail-order scheme had been traced to at least four other states—Georgia, Missouri, Ohio, and Tennessee.

He said the regents' staff had started working with postal inspectors several years ago, when inquiries from personnel offices began arriving at the regents' headquarters here.

The operation was promoted in national magazines, Mr. Hobbs said, with advertisements promising to award "college degrees for life experience." He added that it "would sell you anything from a high-school diploma to a minister's license to a Ph.D. in engineering."

Prices ran from about $75 for a full college transcript—"It would show every course you took and the grade you got in it," Mr. Hobbs said—to $400 to $500 for a Ph.D.

The scheme operated with at least five names, he said. They were American Western University, the National College of Arts and Sciences, the Northwestern College of Allied Science, Regency College, and St. Paul's Seminary.

Whoever devised the operation also invented two accrediting agencies to back it, Mr. Hobbs said. They were called the National Association of Open-Campus Colleges and the Midwestern States Accreditation Agency. "It's a beautiful touch—a tribute to the education industry," he said.

Advertisements for the colleges even carried alleged endorsements from several real educators. When reached by the regents' staff, however, the educators said they had approved of nothing more specific than the concept of universities without walls, and had never heard of any of the five universities, Mr. Hobbs said.

After the Postal Service determined on the basis of a hearing that the operation was fraudulent, it closed the two post-office boxes from which applications and checks were collected. The post-office boxes had been rented by a business called Disciples of Truth, Inc.

No criminal charges have been brought so far, Mr. Hobbs said.

—LAWRENCE BIEMILLER